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NRO REVIEW COMPLETED

2679-63
20 May 1963
Copy 7 of 7
22 MAY 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: AFIGO-S
Headquarters USAF

ATTENTION: Colonel Leo P. Geary, USAF

SUBJECT: Weather Support for Project OXCART

REFERENCE: same subject

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1. Additional research in determining the feasibility of flying refractometer equipped aircraft in the Black-Caspian Sea area has revealed that utilization of SAC RB-47 aircraft in lieu of the originally requested Air Weather Service WB-50 aircraft is desirable because:

A. SAC is currently flying scheduled RECCO missions in this area of interest using RB-47 type aircraft.

1. Utilization of three (3) modified RB-47's would eliminate the necessity of introducing new type aircraft in this critical area and would insure continuous, timely observations.
2. Critical navigation restrictions, for all flights in this area, would undoubtedly require the acquisition of a SAC navigator and SAC control of all missions, if flown in AWS WB-50's.
3. The planned missions, in support of this project, fall within those currently being flown by SAC and would merely require a change in flight profile to secure the desired data.

2. Three (3) AN/ASH-14 Refractometers, owned by the Navy, are available for use at this time. Accuracy is within our limits, when the equipment is properly ground-calibrated, prior to flight. An electronic-technician would have to be trained to insure proper calibration. Data output is in the form of a continuous recording, which when appended with time, location and altitude, give the desired information for research. Data from each mission would pass through normal SAC channels to DSS, 3RD Weather Wing, Offutt AFB, Nebraska.

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3. The attached plan is offered for your consideration and implementation.

FOR THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR (RESEARCH)

BY: (Signed) Jack C. Ledford

JACK C. LEDFORD
Colonel USAF

WEA/OSA/DDR:JES:sah:20 May 63

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